SOUND TRANSIT

RESOLUTION NO. R2007-12

A RESOLUTION of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the chief executive officer to establish a Sound Transit Sustainability Initiative.

WHEREAS, a Regional Transit Authority, hereinafter referred to as Sound Transit, has been created for the Pierce, King, and Snohomish County region by action of their respective county councils pursuant to RCW 81.112.030; and

WHEREAS, on November 5, 1996, at a general election held within the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority district, the voters approved local funding for high capacity transit in the Central Puget Sound Region; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit's Code of Ethics (Resolution 20) requires Board members, officers, and employees to devote their best efforts and attention to managing environmental resources for the benefit and enjoyment of both current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Board has adopted a strong Environmental Policy (Resolution No. R2004-06) and was among the first wave of transit agencies to develop and implement an Environmental Management System (EMS); and

WHEREAS, public transit, which is Sound Transit's core mission, helps protect the environment by providing alternatives to automobile travel, by helping to reduce the number of vehicle miles traveled, and by encouraging compact, urban development at regional centers consistent with the Washington Growth Management Act; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit is proud of its environmental record yet also strives for continual improvement through cost-effective innovation and self-assessment; and

WHEREAS, a healthy and sustainable environment is important to our citizens, our economy, and our future, and such an environment is increasingly threatened due to diminishing natural resources and the impact of global warming; and

WHEREAS, the concept of sustainability means maintaining adequate habitat and resources to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the future and involves a healthy environment, economy, and society; and

WHEREAS, while Sound Transit has taken steps to address sustainability, the Board desires to re-enforce and strengthen the Agency's environmental commitment and responsibility through a more comprehensive approach for incorporating sustainability throughout the agency; and

WHEREAS, the international community, the federal government, the State of Washington, and many of the jurisdictions that comprise Sound Transit have adopted measures related to sustainability and global warming, and the Sound Transit Board includes local and national leaders on these issues; and

WHEREAS, it has been reported that sustainability programs can result in long-term cost-savings by reducing or eliminating waste, promoting efficiency, and by streamlining business practices; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that embracing sustainability measures is in the public interest.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority as follows:

Section 1: The Board hereby directs the chief executive officer to take all reasonable and appropriate steps to integrate sustainable business practices and strategies throughout the Sound Transit organization including planning, designing, constructing, and operating existing and new transit systems and facilities. Such strategies shall constitute Sound Transit's

Sustainability Initiative and shall address at a minimum, but are not limited to, petroleum conservation, alternative fuels, and renewable energy; energy efficiency; greenhouse gas emissions; water conservation; toxics reduction; procurement; waste prevention, re-use, and recycling; building and facility performance; and land use.

Section 2: To ensure progress and continual improvement, objectives and targets shall be established and updated as part of the Agency's Environmental Management System and other Agency performance management systems. Periodic reports will be provided to the Board on progress toward implementing this Resolution.

ADOPTED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on June 28, 2007.

John W. Ladenburg
Board Chair

ATTEST:

Marcia Walker
Board Administrator